ROSEWALL CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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Date: Feb. 3/03

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ROSEWALL CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role
The **primary** role of Rosewall Creek Park is to provide regional day use recreational opportunities in a natural setting. Located near Buckley Bay and set in the popular destination area of the mid-island of Vancouver Island, it provides opportunities for walking, swimming, picnicking, fishing (subject to closures), and nature appreciation. The park is wheel chair accessible and facilities include a short walking trail along the creek and two picnic sites.

Secondary Role
The **secondary** role is to protect the natural environment as part of a network of habitat on the east coast of Vancouver Island. Given the level of development and settlement, even small parks like Rosewall Creek contribute to habitat networks. Originally, Rosewall Creek was a forest preserve set aside for the perpetual growth of timber. Although this protected area is quite small (54.3 ha), it protects an example of the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) xm1 variant, which has only 2% protected in the province. CWH xm1 is primarily located on the east side of Vancouver Island and has been highly modified. Not much of this variant remains intact on Vancouver Island and any protected area that contributes to its protection may be considered important.

Rosewall Creek Park is located in the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection (NAL). Given the size of this park, it makes a small contribution to the protection of the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection, which is a major landscape component of Vancouver Island. This ecosection has been highly modified through development and settlement and is under-represented within the protected areas system at 1.4%. In total, 35 small parks assist in providing representation of the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Lack of detailed knowledge of natural and cultural values	➢ Undertake inventory on natural and cultural values. Include First Nations in development of cultural inventory. Use information to develop a better understanding of the role of park.
Development of surrounding forest lands and impacts of park	➢ Work with the Forest Service and industry to ensure protection of park values.
Erosion of parking lot	➢ Monitor parking and relocate when necessary.
Expansion of recreation opportunities to provide campsites for cyclists on the Inland Highway	➢ Determine demand for cyclist campsite.
Impacts of utility corridors and Inland Highway	➢ Work closely with operators of utility corridors to protect park values.

Zoning

Intensive Recreation – covers the area around the parking lot and walking trail (approximately 3% of the park). The objective of this zone is to provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.

Natural Environment – covers most of the park in recognition of the natural values (approximately 97% of the park). The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	☒	Contributes minimally to the representation of the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented in the protected areas system (1.4%). Rosewall Creek contributes only 1.32% to the overall representation of this ecosection.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	☒	Contributes minimally to the representation of CWHxm1 which is under-represented in the protected areas system (2.07%). Rosewall Creek contributes only 0.72% to the overall representation of CWHxm1.
Special Feature	☒	Salmon spawning streams
Rare/Endangered Values	☒	Coho spawning
Scientific/Research Opportunities	☐	None known at this time

Recreation

Representation		
backcountry	☐	Not Applicable
destination	☐	Not Applicable
travel corridor	☐	Not Applicable
local recreation	☒	Regional day use
Special Opportunities	☐	None known at this time
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	☒	Habitat networks

Cultural Heritage

Representation	☐	Values unknown
Special Feature	☒	Memorial to Second World War veteran

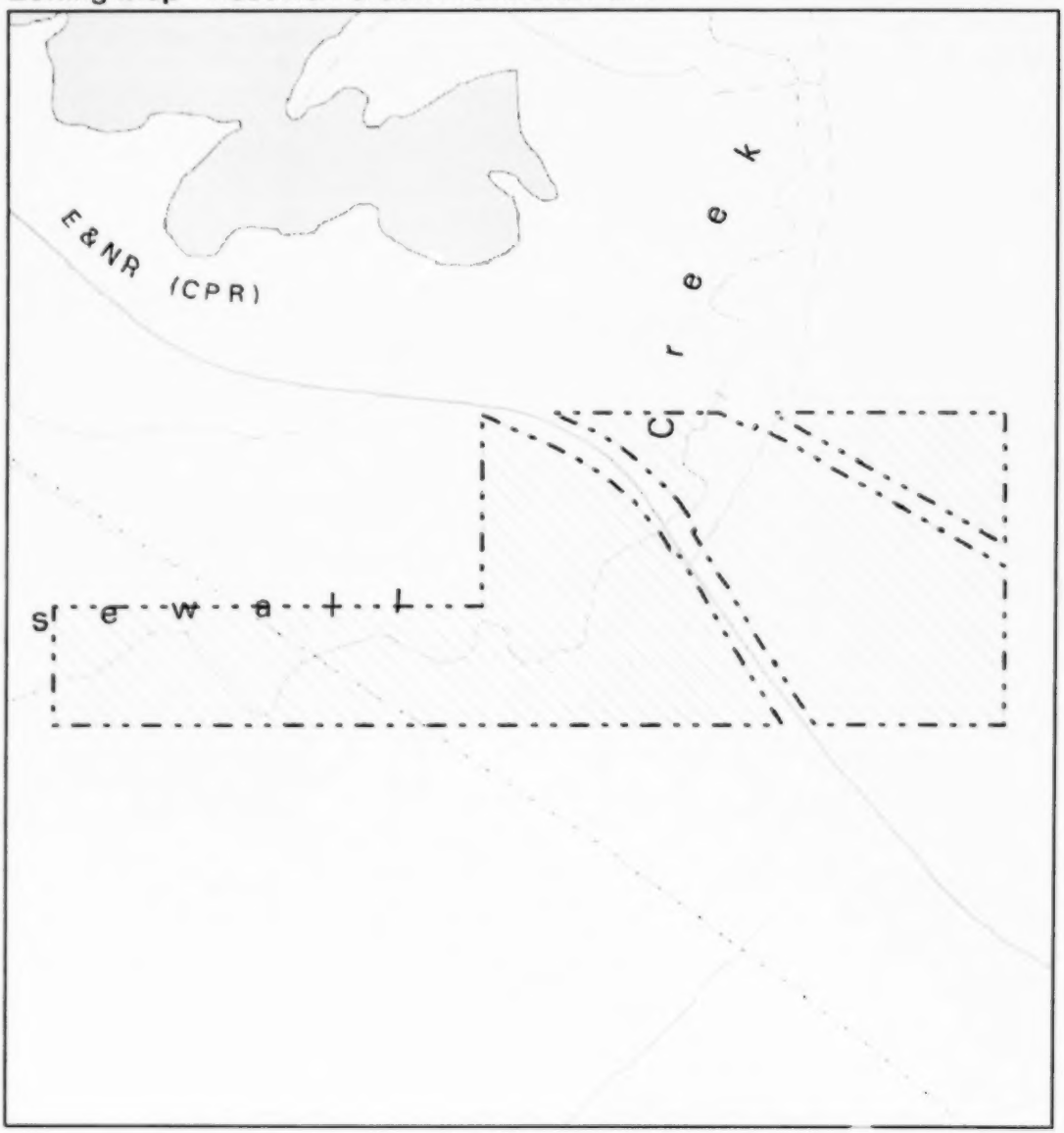
Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	☐	Not Applicable
Relationship to other PAs	☒	Part of a system of protected areas in a popular destination area (includes Rathtrevor Beach, Little Qualicum Falls, Horne Lake Caves)
Co-operative Management Arrangements	☐	Not Applicable
Partnerships	☐	Not Applicable
Vulnerability	☒	Small size limits ability to protect CWHxm1
Relationship to other Strategies	☐	Not Applicable

Area: 54.3 hectares

Date of establishment: May 14, 1956

Zoning Map - Rosewall Creek Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Intensive Recreation
Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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